

A NEW MISTLETOE FROM THE CAYMAN ISLANDS

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Recent exploration on the island of Little Cayman has revealed the presence of a species of *Dendropemon*, a genus hitherto not known to occur in the Cayman Islands.

*Dendropemon caymanensis* Proctor, sp. nov.

*Caules* usque 20 cm. *longi*, *supra* basin usque 2 mm. *crassi*, *teretes*, *cinerascetes*, *ramosi*; *rami* *superne* plus v. minus *compressi* *glabri* *laeves*, *internodiis* 0.7 - 1.5 cm. *longis*. *Folia* 1 - 1.5 mm. *longe* *petiolata*, *oblonga* usque *oblanceolato-oblonga*, *inferne* *sensim* *in* *petiolum* *angustata*, *antice* *subacuta*, *apiculata*, 0.5 - 2.5 cm. *longa*, 3 - 10 mm. *lata*, *nervo* *medio* *praesertim* *subtus* *prominente*, *lateralibus* *paucis*, *prominulis* v. *obsoletis*, *marginem* *plano* *integra*, *subcoriacea*. *Inflorescentiae* 1.5 - 4.5 mm. *longe* *pedunculatae*, *ipsae* *plerumque* usque 1 cm. *longae*, *rigidulae*, 4-8 *florae*, *glabrae*, *laeves*; *rhachis* plus v. minus *compressa*; *pedicelli* 0.5 - 1 mm. *longi*; *bracteola* *laevia*, *apice* *libera* *breviter* *triangularia*. *Calycodium* *truncatum*. *Alabastra* *oblonga* *obtusiuscula*. *Tepala* *ligulata* c. 1.8 mm. *longa*, 0.5 - 0.6 mm. *lata*. *Stamina* non vidi. *Stylus* 0.9 - 1.1 mm. *longus*, *stigmatem* *subcapitato*. *Baccae* *obovoidae* usque 5.5 mm. *longae* *atropurpureae*.

TYPE: Little Cayman, 0.5 km. west of Sparrowhawk Hill, parasitic on *Capparis cynophallophora*, collected August 11, 1975, Proctor 35215. The holotype is a unicate sheet deposited at the Institute of Jamaica (IJ). This species is known so far only from the type collection.

In its complete absence of indument this plant resembles *D. purpureus* (L.) Krug & Urban of the Bahamas, Cuba, Hispaniola, and Puerto Rico, the doubtful species *D. brevipes* Britton of the Bahamas, and also the rare and little-known *D. platypus* Urban of Cuba and *D. rigidus* Urban & Ekman of the Dominican Republic. However, it differs from all of these by the much smaller dimensions of all its parts.

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